

**Appeal letter to Garment, Footwear and Travel Goods buyers  
sourcing from Cambodia**

Cambodia is the first country in the world to link trade to labor standards. In 2001 we partnered with the International Labor Organization (ILO) and launched Better Factories Cambodia which required all exporting garment factories in Cambodia to be subject to monitoring by the ILO to ensure compliance with national laws and international labor standards and the program has been implemented until now. We are proud of this legacy and will continue to ensure that the labor and social rights of our workers are upheld while we build a sustainable supply chain.

Since our last appeal to you on 02 April 2020 we have received commitments from some buyers, for which GMAC and Cambodian people are grateful. However, the situation has since worsened globally and especially in Cambodia.

As of the time of writing, 180 factories have suspended their operations, with 60 more in the pipeline, which is wreaking havoc on the more than 150,000 workers temporarily suspended from work without clear indication of work resumption as of now and close to 200,000 soon. This will impact not only the workers but also the 2 million Cambodian family members who depend on them.

We understand the difficulties that buyers are facing but we do strongly appeal to all of you to honor your payments for goods already received and/or in transit to you. Cambodian manufacturers are already suffering from many cancellations and no new orders and cannot withstand any payment default.

Products are shipped in good faith and our manufacturers shall be paid what they are owed, anything less would not be fair.

Payment terms can be discussed but no payment is not acceptable and we therefore appeal to your sense of decency to make good on your debt.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia as well as the workers in these sectors, we thank you for the support and confidence you have shown and given to us over the past 2 decades. We sincerely look forward to many more years of co-operation with you all.

Phnom Penh, 04 May 2020  
Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia



សមាគមនិយោជកវត្ថុធាតុដើមកម្ពុជា Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia សមាគមនិយោជកវត្ថុធាតុដើមកម្ពុជា Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia